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On 16 April 1948 Major Mamontov of the Soviet Information Bureau 25X1X 1'. delivered a lecture in Karlshorst on the current international situation, which was attended by propaganda and agitation personnel of SMA. He indicated that two new German political parties will shortly be formed in the Russian zone, both to be based on leftist elements in the present CDU and LDP. The new parties are expected to refrain from joining the "Antifa" bloc, but only for tactical reasons. There will be no party representing "reactionary elements".

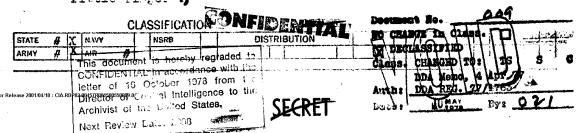
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Comment: This statement was also made by Wilhelm Pieck at a public meeting in Berlin-Wedding on 19 April. 25X1A

- A representative of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR, Sobolev, is at present in Germany collecting material for a report on the effectiveness of propaganda methods in the Soviet Zone. He is expected to recommend the creation of the two new parties, as well as the establishment of a "new democracy government" in Germany.
- Responsible officials of the SMA believe that the recently introduced control measures have caused a panic among the personnel of the western powers in Berlin. This panic has spread to German politicians co-operating with the British and Americans, so that they are more hesitant in criticizing Soviet policies. American dependents are making haste to leave Berlin, and it is believed that eventually all the western powers will evacuate the city: the as umption is that they are waiting only for a suitable facesaving excuse.

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Comment: The average Soviet officer is not familiar with the agreement under which the western Allies occupied their sectors of Berlin. High-ranking SMA officials believe (as the Russian-sponsored press keeps saying) that the Allies have no letal rights in Berlin, and must evacuate if the ACA is dissolved. Furthermore, the rank and file are much impressed by the results achieved by the Soviet controls, and consider that "powerful capitalist America shakes when the Soviet Union raises its little finger".



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- 4. War numors are on the increase among the Russians in Germany. This is largely because the Russian dependents have placed their own interpretation on the directive recarding the return of children to the USSR for the coming school year. Source meports with some surprise that the majority of Soviet officers believe the Loviet Union would lose if a war should begin in the near future. However, political officers have been instructed to develop the line that the new democracies led by the Boviet Union will not permit "the American fascist imperialists" to start an aggressive var.
- The Chief of the Political Directorate of the Ministry of the Armed Porces of the USS?, Col. Gen. Shikin, has again issued a reprirand to Maj. Gen. Andreev, Chief of the Political Directorate for SMA, because of the unsatisfactory political indectrination and conduct of Joviet personnel in Germany. Every month there are some thirty or thirty-live "extraordinary events" (apparently cases of defection to the British or Americans). The number of "ordinary events" (drunkerness, robbery, absence without leave, etc.) remains excessive.

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